

REMARKS

Claims 1-29 are pending in this application. Claims 1-21 were objected to for formal matters while claims 22-29 were withdrawn. Applicants' specification and drawings were also objected to. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks and amendments.

Specification

The Examiner objected to Applicants' specification under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. The Examiner stated that certain terms in Applicants' specification were not clear, concise and exact. Applicants have revised the specification and believe that the Examiner's objection with respect to Applicants' specification has been rendered moot. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of Examiner's objection to Applicants' specification.

Drawings

Figures 5, 42, 50 were objected to by the Examiner as failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. §1.84(g). Applicants have corrected the affected Figures by moving the figures within the acceptable margins. Compliant figures are submitted herein. As such, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the Examiner's objections to Figures 5, 42, 50.

Figures 97B-100 were objected to by the Examiner as failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. §1.84(l). Applicants have provided clearer drawings, herein, with better defined lines. As such, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the Examiner's objections to Figures 97B-100.

ClaimsClaims 1, 2, 5, 7, 9-12, 15, 18-20

Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 9-12, 15, 18-20 were objected to by the Examiner under 37 C.F.R. §1.75(a). Applicants have corrected the noted defects in each claim and respectfully request the withdrawal of the Examiner's objections to claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 9-12, 15, 18-20.

Claim 21

Claim 21 was objected to by the Examiner as lacking antecedent basis for "said portion to be engaged" or "said engagement portion" as the term engaging is not claimed in claim 20. However, Applicants respectfully state that claim 21 has the requisite antecedent bases for these elements as antecedent bases for the terms in question are provided in claim 20. Claim 20 recites (emphasis added):

20. A cylinder cleaning device according to claim 18, wherein, in said connection structure for said pair of bar members, a portion to be engaged is formed to one bar member and an engagement portion is provided to the other bar member, so that said engagement portion is connected to said portion to be engaged.

Accordingly, Applicants believe that claim 21 is in condition for allowance and respectfully request withdrawal of Examiner's objection to claim 21.

Claims 3-6, 8, 13-14, and 16-17

Claims 3-6, 8, 13-14, and 16-17 were objected to by the Examiner as being dependent upon objected base claims. Applicants have amended the objected to base claims, namely claims 1, 10, 12, and 15 and believe that these amendments have cured the Examiner's objections to these claims. Applicants' amendments to the objected to base claims have rendered the Examiner's objections to dependent claims 3-6, 8, 13-14, and 16-17 moot. As such,

Applicants believe that claims 3-6, 8, 13-14, and 16-17 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request withdrawal of the Examiner's objections to 3-6, 8, 13-14, and 16-17.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants believe that their application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections to the specification, drawings and claims of this application.

AUTHORIZATION

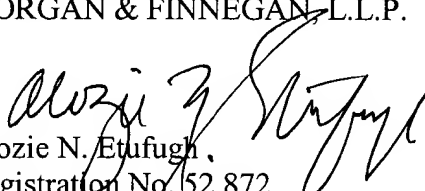
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 2000-4007US1. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 2000-4007US1. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: May 04, 04

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